

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CAPE T 00473 261536Z

64

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /080 W

----- 120501

R 261510Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5126

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAPE TOWN 0473

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: WA, SF, PINT

SUBJ: VORSTER ON FUTURE OF WALVIS BAY

1. DURING DEBATE IN HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY APRIL 23 PRIME MINISTER VORSTER STATED THAT THERE EXISTS ERRONEOUS ASSUMPTION AMONG SOME OBSERVERS THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN TERRITORY OF WALVIS BAY ACTUALLY BELONGS TO SOUTH WEST AFRICA. VORSTER SAID HE CONCERNED ABOUT THIS MISAPPREHENSION AND WILL GIVE CONSIDERATION TO REPEALING DURING NEXT PARLIAMENTARY SESSION, 1922 LEGISLATION WHICH GAVE SWA AUTHORITIES ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR WALVIS BAY.

2. IN CONVERSATION WITH SENATOR PERCY EARLIER THE SAME DAY, VORSTER ALSO MENTIONED HIS CONCERN THAT PEOPLE GETTING WRONG IDEA ABOUT WALVIS BAY.

3. COMMENT: 424 SQUARE MILE LAND TERRITORY OF WALVIS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CAPE T 00473 261536Z

BAY WAS ANNEXED BY CAPE COLONY IN 1880 AND INCORPORATED

INTO UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA IN 1910. AFTER SWA BECAME A SOUTH AFRICAN MANDATED TERRITORY, LEGISLATION WAS PASSED PLACING WALVIS BAY ADMINISTRATION IN HANDS OF SAG APPOINTEES ADMINISTERING SWA. IN CONVERSATIONS WITH WHITE AND BLACK NAMIBIANS OF ALL POLITICAL PERSUASIONS EMBOFFS HAVE FOUND ALMOST UNIVERSAL AGREEMENT THAT, WHEN AND IF NAMIBIA BECOMES INDEPENDENT, WALVIS BAY SHOULD BE INCORPORATED INTO IT. BLACKS GENERALLY BELIEVE THAT THIS SHOULD BE DONE AS A MATTER OF COURSE TO REDRESS A COLONIAL WRONG. WHITES BELIEVE THAT THE INCORPORATION WILL HAVE TO BE A TOPIC OF NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN SWA AND SAG AUTHORITIES. ALTHOUGH VORSTER'S COMMENTS DID NOT ADDRESS QUESTION OF WALVIS BAY'S RELATIONSHIP TO AN INDEPENDENT NAMIBIA, IT IS CLEAR THAT HE WANTS TO KEEP HIS OPTIONS OPEN. THE LOGISTICAL HASSLE OF SETTING UP A SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION MAKES IT UNLIKELY THAT PM WILL CARRY THROUGH ON HIS PUBLIC MUSINGS ABOUT QUICK REPEAL OF 1922 LEGISLATION. HOWEVER, MORE ASSERTIONS OF SOUTH AFRICAN SOVEREIGNTY OVER WALVIS BAY ARE LIKELY TO BE HEARD IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

BOWDLER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INDEPENDENCE, POLICIES, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CAPET00473
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760158-0547
From: CAPE TOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760421/aaaaaqzf.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <10 SEP 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VORSTER ON FUTURE OF WALVIS BAY
TAGS: PINT, WA, SF, (VORSTER, BALTHAZAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006